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### Note by the Secretary-General

**Addendum**

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00-75679 (E) 190101

# 1. AFS Inter-cultural Programs

**Special status granted in 1974**

## Aims and purposes

AFS Inter-cultural Programs (AFS) is an international, voluntary, non-governmental, non-profit organization that provides intercultural learning opportunities to help people develop the knowledge, skills and understanding needed to act as responsible, global citizens working for peace and understanding in a diverse world. Through its programmes and activities, AFS seeks to affirm faith in the dignity and worth of every human being and of all nations and cultures, encourages respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and bases its activities on the core values of dignity, respect for differences, harmony, sensitivity and tolerance. AFS is a people-to-people movement primarily engaged in intercultural educational exchange, involving over 10,000 participants annually and a network of over 100,000 volunteers worldwide. AFS currently operates through national member organizations in 54 countries located in all regions of the world.

During this quadrennial period, 1994-1997, AFS has focused in particular on developing programmes and organizations in Africa and on expanding the programmes and organizations in Eastern and Central Europe, in Asia and in Latin America and the Caribbean. South Africa was readmitted as a partner organization in 1995, Ghana re-entered in 1996, and the first year-long high school student exchange programme from China was initiated in 1997.

AFS conducts intercultural exchange programmes of varying lengths for students, teachers, young professionals and workers. The programmes include in-depth immersion in the local culture and language, and expose participants to new perspectives on key world issues such as the environment, marginalized or other disadvantaged peoples, and minority rights. The Community Service Program, a core AFS programme begun in 1997, offers young people, ages 18 and above, a chance to volunteer with local organizations that address community needs in other countries. Projects may help street children lead healthier lives or develop training programmes with human rights workers. During the programme, participants are exposed to new customs, morals, ethics and values that challenge them to reflect on their own cultural norms. The constituent national organizations of AFS also conduct seminars and other activities at the local and national levels concerning themes of universal human values. Many national AFS organizations maintain close cooperation with the United Nations associations in their countries and organized and participated in joint activities, especially in 1995 in celebration of the United Nations fiftieth anniversary.

## Participation in United Nations conferences and meetings

During the period under review (1994-1997), representatives from the international headquarters of AFS Inter-cultural Programs and from national constituent AFS organizations participated in the following conferences and meetings:

(a) UNESCO International Conference on Education, Geneva, 3-8 October 1994;

(b) Preparatory Committee meetings for the World Summit for Social Development, New York, 22 August-22 September 1994 and 16-27 January 1995;

(c) World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, Denmark, 6-12 March 1995;

(d) Commission for Social Development, thirty-fourth session, New York, 10-20 April 1995;

(e) Planning meeting for the Youth Forum of the United Nations system, New York, 17-19 July 1995;

(f) Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, China, 4-15 September 1995;

(g) Collective Consultation of Youth NGOs on Literacy and Education for All, Tokyo, Japan, 5-9 September 1995;

(h) Forty-eighth annual DPI/NGO Conference, "The United Nations at the turn of the Century: global issues; global actors; global responsibility", New York, 18-20 September 1995;

(i) International NGO Seminar "Focus on families: action and issues beyond IYY", Vienna, 6-7 November 1995;

(j) Commission for Social Development, special session, New York, 21-31 May 1996;

(k) Second United Nations Youth Forum, Vienna, November 1996;

(l) Evaluation meeting of the second United Nations Youth Forum, New York, January 1997.

## Other relevant activities

AFS Inter-cultural Programs has demonstrated its strong commitment to the goals set forth in the Charter of the United Nations through the exchange programmes and activities it operates, concentrating in the areas of youth, education, social development and the environment.

The AFS World Congress adopted an updated mission statement incorporating language and content in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights in June 1993 (A/CONF.157/23). In 1995 AFS adopted a "Global education framework" for its programmes, to further promote learning about world issues.

International and national publications of AFS highlighted United Nations events and themes, in particular the International Year of the Family (1994), the United Nations Year for Tolerance (1995); and the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations as well as various United Nations "days". Many activities are carried out by AFS constituent organizations in support of these, such as seminars and workshops on human rights, conflict resolution, tolerance and combating racism, and, for example, running a "Model Security Council" in France. Information was also

disseminated about United Nations documents, declarations and materials for use in the national AFS organizations, in particular the UNESCO *World Education Report* and UNDP *Human Development Report*, the Declaration of the UNESCO International Conference on Education (1994) and the project "Towards a culture of peace", focusing on education for peace, human rights, democracy and international understanding and tolerance; the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Summit for Social Development (1995); and the Platform for Action from the Fourth World Conference on Women (1995). At the NGO Forum connected with the Social Summit, AFS conducted three different workshops on building global citizenship for a diverse world, presenting practical examples of how to achieve intercultural understanding and social integration.

Former AFS participants work throughout the United Nations system, in non-governmental organizations devoted to the goals of the United Nations, and in government. Likewise, many key AFS staff and volunteer leaders have close associations with the United Nations. The AFS National Director in Germany serves as an expert on CEDAW.

Having previously received a special testimonial from the Secretary-General in recognition of its dedicated service in support of the United Nations Programme on Youth, AFS continues to be in the forefront of non-governmental organizations engaged in youth work. AFS is committed to the goals established by the General Assembly in the guidelines for planning and follow-up in the field of youth. AFS looks forward to continuing to contribute to the planning of the next World Youth Forum, the implementation of the United Nations World Youth Programme of Action for the Year 2000 and Beyond, and the implementation of the recommendations of the Social Summit and of the Commission for Social Development.

## 2. Associazione Volontari per il Servizio Internazionale

**General consultative status granted in 1966**

The Associazione Volontari per il Servizio Internazionale (AVSI) is an international non-governmental organization based in Italy, whose main goal is to promote human growth in developing and transition countries in line with the social teaching of the Catholic Church. AVSI carries out its purpose through planning and implementation of mid- and long-term international cooperation projects in many fields and through an institutional and operational partnership with local institutions, associations and other non-governmental organizations. Today, AVSI members include both individuals and 15 non-governmental organizations, located in 16 countries. AVSI is currently directly involved in 74 projects in 26 countries, many in cooperation with United Nations agencies, and in sensitization and cultural initiatives at various levels and places.

### Changes in geographical membership and sources of funding

The Cooperacao para o Desenvolvimento e Morada Humana (CDM) (Brazil), has been a member since May 1998.

1996: Private donors 30 per cent, Governments 43 per cent, United Nations agencies and others 8 per cent, European Union 19 per cent;

1997: Private donors 34 per cent, Governments 22 per cent, United Nations agencies and others 16 per cent, European Union 28 per cent;

1998: Private donors 49 per cent, Governments 14 per cent, United Nations agencies and others 16 per cent, European Union 21 per cent;

1999: Private donors 44 per cent, Governments 30 per cent, United Nations agencies and others 16 per cent, European Union 10 per cent.

## Participation in the Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

(a) New York, 28-30 July 1997, UNDP, International Conference on Governance for Sustainable Growth and Equity;

(b) New York, October 1997, fifty-second session of the General Assembly;

(c) Geneva, 16 March-24 April 1998, fifty-fourth session of the Commission on Human Rights;

(d) New York, 16 July 1998, Substantive session of the Council, oral statement by the AVSI Vice-President on special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance;

(e) Geneva, 12 April 1999, fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights, presentation of the book *Where is my home? Children in war*, sponsored by UNICEF;

(f) Geneva 14-15 April 1999, fifty-fifth session of the Commission on Human Rights, oral statement on item 13, "Rights of the child", on the abduction of children from northern Uganda, by AVSI Officer for East Africa responsible for children in difficult circumstances;

(g) Turin, 4 July 1999, Economic and Social Council panel on "The role of training in promoting access to work";

(h) Geneva, 15 July 1999, Substantive session of the Council, oral statement by the AVSI Scientific Committee Coordinator on special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance;

(i) Geneva, 30 September-10 October 1999, tenth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

## Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

### UNICEF

AVSI and UNICEF shared the following operational agreements:

(a) Rwanda: 1996, psychological programme for war affected children; 1998, prevention and re-integration programme for vulnerable children and families;

(b) Uganda: 1997, emergency intervention for internally displaced people in Kitgum District; 1997, involvement in core group team on psycho-social support, chaired by UNICEF/Kampala; 1998, participation in the advisory team for the psycho-social assessment in north Uganda; 1998-2000, project agreement for a psycho-social programme in northern Uganda;

(c) Romania: 1997-1999, social services to families having children with AIDS;

(d) Albania: 1998, emergency aid — "Adopt a health district";

(e) Kosovo: 1999, programme for early childhood and youth in Kosovo.

**UNCHS (Habitat)**

From the positive evaluations made by UNCHS (Habitat) on AVSI's settlement upgrading interventions in Brazil in the past decades, replicable methods and techniques have been worked out jointly by Habitat and AVSI. Research and tests have been undertaken with the support and involvement of European and Brazilian university groups, local non-governmental organizations, town-planning agencies and computer science companies. An international network of operators and laboratories was then established, allowing implementation and continuous updating of solutions and techniques adequate to settlement upgrading and urban poverty reduction projects.

AVSI was asked to present its experience and the methods used in this specific field of international cooperation at Habitat: Second United Nations Conference of Human Settlements and at its preliminary meetings. It organized and attended several international preparatory seminars (Dubai, December 1995, and Recife, March 1996).

The "Alvorada" project, implemented by AVSI in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, was selected by the Conference secretariat as one of the "best practices" at the Habitat II Conference.

**UNDP**

AVSI and UNDP shared the following operational agreements:

(a) Uganda: 1996-1997, community capacity-building for the care of persons with AIDS and the prevention of HIV transmission, in Kitgum District (northern Uganda);

(b) Rwanda: 1999, promotion of income opportunities and reintegration for vulnerable households in Rwanda;

(c) Kosovo: 1999, village empowerment and rehabilitation programme; 1999, in the provision of food aid.

**UNHCR/WFP**

The main operational agreements with AVSI were in Uganda: 1995-1997, Acholpii refugee camp, activities managed by AVSI with WFP; 1997, Acholpii refugee camp, multiple activities in favour of Sudanese refugees; 1997-1998, Kyangwali refugee camp, humanitarian aid for Congolese and Sudanese refugees; 1998, Acholpii refugee camp, educational activities; 1999, Acholpii refugee camp,

humanitarian aid for Sudanese refugees, and Kyangwali refugee camp, humanitarian aid for Congolese refugees.

**UNIDO**

AVSI was granted consultative status in June 1999.

## Actions in implementation of United Nations resolutions

Florence, November 1997: Conference on governance and participation: practical approaches to urban poverty reduction; towards cities for the new generation. In working group 2, on shelter, employment and the informal city, an AVSI representative made an oral statement.

**Joint sponsorship of meetings**

In 1998, AVSI's annual sensitization and education campaign was held on the rights of the child. The use of the United Nations emblem, associated with the wording "UN-we believe", was granted to the whole campaign.

**Seminars and meeting organized on relevant subjects for the United Nations**

(a) Rome, January 1998, a seminar on "Definition of the roles and tasks among the actors of international cooperation: a contribution to the debate on Italian regulations";

(b) Rimini, August 1998, a round table on "A positive look at reality: poverty and debt in developing countries; cooperation among peoples";

(c) Bologna, June 1998, a seminar on "International development cooperation: an exceptional opportunity for the Parliament to reaffirm a culture of solidarity and valorize the skills and commitment of civil society";

(d) Milan, December 1998, an international seminar on "Children in the world: matters for adults. He who lets himself to be educated can educate";

(e) Rimini, August 1999, a round table on "Sanctions and embargoes: usefulness and limits of these tools in international cooperation";

(f) Rome, December 1999, a seminar on "Foreign debts: which solution? For a new relationship among developed and developing countries".

**Publications**

(a) "Children in the world: matters for adults. He who lets himself to be educated can educate". Proceedings of the seminar held in December 1998 in Milan.

(b) Magazine "Dimensioni dello Sviluppo", No. 1 (1997): "Women and children come first"; No. 2 (1997), "Social growth in the age of globalization".

## 3. Baptist World Alliance

**Special consultative status granted in 1974**

The Baptist World Alliance (BWA) exists as an expression of the essential oneness of Baptist people in the Lord Jesus Christ, to impart inspiration to the fellowship and to provide channels for sharing concerns and skills in witness and ministry. It is a fellowship of 196 Baptist conventions and unions with ministry in more than 150 countries of the world. This includes 43,052,830 baptized members in 162,439 local congregations, according to statistics for 1999. The Baptist World Alliance is growing fastest in Asia and Africa. BWA leads in world evangelism, responds to people in need and defends human rights.

The BWA Freedom and Justice Commission concerns itself with human rights, religious liberty and racial and ethnic conflict. It has forwarded reports of violations against Baptist church bodies to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Its representatives have closely monitored proceedings of both the Commission and the Third Committee of the General Assembly. In July 1998 the European representative spoke on the BWA concern for human rights at a meeting of the Commission. BWA promoted the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights and annually sponsors a human rights Sunday in all member churches, for which special materials are prepared by Baptists from different parts of the world. BWA, through its Freedom and Justice Commission, publishes a series of booklets on human rights and religious liberty. Each year representatives of the staff and members of the Commission on Freedom and Justice make a human rights visit to a country or region where there have been significant human rights violations in order to learn about the situation first-hand and to express solidarity with those suffering the denial of their rights.

Baptist World Aid, BWA's arm for carrying out relief and development activities through its member bodies, spent $1,253,118 in cash gift funds and $6,556,745 in gifts in kind in 1999. Most cooperation is done in the field with UNDP, UNICEF, WHO and the High Commissioner for Refugees. New York representatives attend meetings of the Commission on Sustainable Development, UNEP and OCHA/Interaction, which cooperates with the Department of Humanitarian Affairs in the Secretariat.

BWA's New York representative has attended meetings of the Economic and Social Council and the Third Committee of the General Assembly, but the Alliance has made no request to present oral or written statements to the Council in the period covered by this report.

The New York representative regularly attends the briefings offered by the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the Conference on Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO). He monitors publications, new releases and minutes of United Nations bodies, and passes on relevant materials to BWA officers and to the departments and regional offices. He maintains membership and regular attendance in the NGO Committee on Human Rights, the NGO Committee of Freedom of Religion or Belief and the Values Caucus, and was elected president of the Committee of Religious NGOs at the United Nations in 1997. He also attends meetings of the Committee on Sustainable Development.

BWA receives regular reports on the activities of the United Nations from its New York and European representatives at both the annual Executive Committee meeting and the sessions of the General Council, where all member bodies are entitled to be represented. Reports on United Nations activities are also printed regularly in *BWA News* (monthly) and *Baptist World* (quarterly). They can also be found on the BWA web site, www.bwanet.org.

The BWA General Council has adopted resolutions recommending to its member bodies positions and actions on issues facing the United Nations, including the following:

(a) 1995, justice, aid;

(b) 1996, persecution of Christians, church burning in the United States of America, Hong Kong;

(c) 1997, fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights, peace in the Middle East, campaign against landmines;

(d) 1998, conflict resolution in Nagaland, reconciliation, nuclear proliferation, Jubilee 2000 (debt forgiveness).

Through its Asian regional body, the Asian Baptist Federation, BWA sponsored training in non-violence and mediation, which has been followed up by mediation with conflicting parties, the majority of whom are members of Baptist churches in Nagaland in north-east India.

## 4. Counterpart International

**Special consultative status granted in 1970**

Since its founding in 1965, Counterpart International has developed a successful track record in conducting regional, multisectoral technical assistance and capacity-building programmes through responsible and accountable stewardship of donor resources. Counterpart currently implements innovative community-based development programmes in more than 25 countries in the areas of environmental resource management, food security, NGO capacity-building, primary health care, micro-enterprise development and humanitarian aid.

In partnership with local community organizations, businesses, Governments and international organizations, Counterpart implements this diverse spectrum of programmes in south and south-east Asia, Central Asia, Latin America, Africa, the Pacific Islands, and the former Soviet Union. Counterpart's programmes have always been in harmony with the international agendas negotiated through the United Nations.

Since 1998, Counterpart's geographical reach has expanded to include Canada, Belgium, Germany, Barbados, St. Lucia and Moldova.

There have been no substantial changes in Counterpart International's funding sources.

Throughout the past several years, Counterpart has collaborated with several international non-governmental organizations, including Global Legislators Organization for a Balanced Environment, an international environmental education

project active in more than 80 countries, involving students in practical initiatives in their local environments. The Global Organization is expanding its activities to include sustainable development programmes.

Counterpart has worked closely with the Global Commons Institute (GCI), which seeks to protect our "global commons", in danger of being driven beyond the threshold of ecological stability by persisting economic growth. GCI will co-present, with Counterpart, an event at the upcoming sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Counterpart has observer status with the Conference secretariat.

It has also worked closely with the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) since its founding, addressing their development challenges and their increasing vulnerability to the effects of global climate change.

Counterpart maintains a long-standing relationship with the Human Society of the United States. Earth Voice is a partner in sustainable development programmes in many countries.

Counterpart has been involved in all of the follow-up conferences related to UNCED, the 1995 World Summit for Social Development, the 1994 International Conference on Population, and the 1995 Beijing Women's Conference. Statements were made at the Donors Conference for Small Island Developing States by the CEO of Counterpart International, Mr. Stan Hosie. The 1999 AOSIS summit session at the United Nations was attended by a Counterpart delegation. The Vice-President served as an adviser to the President of the Summit.

Counterpart International has exercised broad cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies since it gained consultative status with the Council. It has collaborated with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, on most economic and social issues, especially those relating to small island development, women's issues, population, sustainable development, and poverty alleviation. Additional collaborations have been with UNDP on small island development and with NETAID on sustainable development and communication. Through its programmes, Counterpart has worked with the Commission on Sustainable Development to apply sustainable development in the world's forests, marine sanctuaries, and most recently, the tourism industry. In Turin, Italy, Counterpart worked in partnership with the International Labour Organization to support the International Training Centre on interregional cooperation for planning and development. A seven-person Counterpart delegation attended NGO, religious, and other United Nations events associated with the Millennium Summit.

Counterpart has supported the implementation of key United Nations resolutions on sustainable development through a major partnership with AOSIS. It has hosted side events at the fourth and fifth sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Climate Change Convention and will participate in the upcoming sixth session.

Counterpart International has cooperated regularly with officials throughout the United Nations.

At the request of the Chairman of AOSIS, Counterpart published, at its own expense *Small Islands, Big Issues*, highlighting the Barbados Programme of Action.

Copies were made available to UNDP and to various United Nations Secretariat departments.

Counterpart International is a founding member of the Washington, D.C.-based Global Environmental Alliance, to support sustainable development activities by empowering local non-governmental organizations around the world. The Alliance utilizes an extensive network of offices and partners expanding infrastructure and project capability to save and protect endangered species, biodiversity, and the great life support systems of the natural world.

Counterpart is a founding member of the Alliance in Support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Activities which groups together some 70 non-governmental organizations to support continued funding of United Nations programmes by the US Congress.

Counterpart co-sponsored special events promoting UNIFEM in the United States in 2000.

Counterpart hosts offices for UNICEF and UNIFEM support groups in Washington, D.C.

## 5. International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage

**Special consultative status granted in 1954**

### Aims and objectives

The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) was established as a scientific and technical professional and voluntary, not-for-profit organization dedicated to improve land and water management to enhance the worldwide supply of food and fibre and the productivity of irrigated and drained lands through appropriate management of the water environment and application of scientific irrigation, drainage and flood control techniques. The mission is to stimulate and promote the development of the arts, sciences and techniques of engineering, agriculture, economics, ecology and social sciences in managing water resources for irrigation, drainage and flood control, including research and development, capacity-building and adopting comprehensive approaches for sustainable agriculture in the world. Currently, ICID has its national committees in 85 countries.

ICID has an International Executive Council (IEC) with a member from each of the member countries which meets at least once a year.

ICID interacts and cooperates with a good number of international organizations, some of which are: UNESCO, consultancy status since 1954; FAO, special consultative status since 1955; WHO, liaison since 1955; WMO, consultative status since 1960; International Organization for Standardization (ISO), consultative status since 1975; International Water Resources Association (IWRA), memorandum of understanding since 1994.

Representatives of various international organizations or regional institutions are invited to the meetings of the International Executive Council, such as UNDRO, UNEP, UNESCO, WMO, World Bank, FAO, Swedish International Development

Agency (SIDA), ISO, IWRA, International Water Quality Association (IWQA), International Water Supply Association (IWSA), Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank and Inter-American Development Bank.

ICID cooperates with other international agencies in the Aral Sea Basin. It is an active partner of the International Program for Technology Research in Irrigation and Drainage (IPTRID), now hosted by FAO (earlier managed by the World Bank). It has also been associated with issues addressing the problems of rivers of the eastern Indian peninsula, involving Nepal, India, Bhutan, and Bangladesh. ICID was involved in the organization of two international seminars on flood-related disaster management at Hanoi and Dhaka during 1994-1997. It participated in the Nile Conferences, held in Sudan in February 1994, United Republic of Tanzania in February 1995, Uganda in March 1996, and Ethiopia in 1997.

## International cooperation

The FAO regards ICID as an active partner of its Land and Water Division, and FAO is a permanent observer of the Commission's International Executive Council. The World Bank too is represented in the deliberations of ICID, besides being a permanent observer in the Council. ICID sends its representatives to meetings of the International Hydrological Programme. It is registered as a category A liaison member of the International Organization for Standardization. Further, it cooperates with all other international organizations whose activities and objectives are in harmony with its objectives. It received the Peace Messenger Award from the Secretary-General of the United Nations in 1987, for its significant contribution to programmes of peace. ICID is a founding member and occupies a seat on the governing body of the World Water Council (WWC).

ICID hosts the secretariat of the International Water-related Associations' Liaison Committee (IWALC), established to promote interaction among associations dealing with the various aspects of water.

## Core operations

In pursuit of its aims, ICID has so far held 16 triennial congresses at various locations in the world and deliberated on 47 questions on water and land management matters. The fifteenth ICID Congress at The Hague in 1993, on "Water management in the next century", culminated in a policy declaration called The Hague Declaration. Taking a cue from chapter 18 of Agenda 21, ICID launched its water-saving programme in agriculture through appropriate water management.

## Regional programmes

ICID persistently strives, through its annual meetings and triennial congresses to address various vital issues in the development and improvement of irrigation management in the world. It organized two seminars/workshops on water-related disasters and flood forecasting in 1997.

### Special programmes

Existing policies regarding the water sector and the extent to which they can be sharpened are studied and discussed in various regions, particularly in the developing countries. ICID is designing some special programmes, to be supported by FAO/World Bank and/or the Global Water Partnership (GWP). They include water conservation in agriculture and capacity-building of women farmers in irrigated agriculture in developing countries. Regional seminars for drawing up national policies for irrigation development in the developing countries of Africa are being planned.

ICID has received three awards: the Dr. N. D. Gulhati Memorial Award (1995), the Dr. Hassan Ismail Memorial Award (1995), and the WatSave Technology Award.

Undaunted by the limitation of funds, ICID gratefully acknowledges the funding support accorded by UNESCO, the World Bank, FAO, CIDA and others, and assures the world community that it will continue to play a pivotal role in improving the conservation of water throughout the world. The institution of ICID WatSave awards for the development of technology for saving water in agriculture or demonstrating water savings through innovative water management, coupled with the young professionals award for promoting water savings, is an important step for encouraging competition and recognizing success, wherever achieved. The young professional's award seeks to draw the younger generation to adopt ICID objectives.

## 6. International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction

**General special consultative status granted in 1954**

### Purpose, scope and objectives

The purpose of the International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction (CIB) is to provide a global network for international exchange and cooperation in research and innovation in building and construction in support of an improved building process and of improved performance of the built environment.

CIB covers technical, economic, environmental and other aspects of building and construction, addressing all steps in the process of basic and applied research, documentation and transfer of research results, and the implementation and actual application of them.

The objectives of CIB are: to be a relevant source of information concerning research and innovation worldwide in the field of building and construction; to provide reliable and effective access to the global research community; and to be a forum for achieving a meaningful exchange between the entire spectrum of building and construction interests and the global research community.

## Funding

The principal source of funding throughout the period under review has continued to be the revenue from members who pay an annual fee to the Council. The level of payment depends on the member's assigned category: full, associate or individual.

## Membership

CIB's membership has continued to expand throughout the period under review, and it has now developed into a worldwide network of over 5,000 experts from about 500 organizations in nearly 100 countries, active in the research community, in industry or in education, who collaborate and exchange information in over 50 international commissions extending over all fields in building and construction-related research and innovation.

## Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

CIB informs the United Nations of symposia, meetings, projects, etc. judged to be of interest. Direct communication and cooperation is effected through the medium of CIB member institutes which are in regular contact with United Nations units in their region. CIB member institutes execute consultancy and other technical assignments for United Nations agencies. They are agreed upon directly by the parties concerned.

## Publications

CIB considers it to be a prime task to give permanent form to the results of its activities through publications, and the output originating from the Commissions has been of three main types: scientific or technical analyses, international state-of-the-art reports, and proceedings of workshops, symposia and conferences. The subject matter of the publications reflects the broad spectrum of CIB's activities and will therefore include references to areas of United Nations interests — e.g., low-cost housing, informal settlements, etc.

The CIB bi-monthly *Information Bulletin* features regular highlights in CIB's activities. For the internationally minded research professional, regularly updated sources of reference in the form of directories are produced, and recently practical legal texts have been issued.